Mr. Eugene P. Foley
Assisant Secretary of Commerce and
Director of Economic Development
Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Foley:

Recently I became aware of the State of California's request to your ~~Department~~ OFFICE for $3,000,000 in "poverty funds" to be applied toward the construction of a proposed highway to Mineral King, the proposed Disney ski development.

Over the last two summers I have become familiar with the Tulare County region of California and am aware of the wide spread poverty there. However I fail to see how the Mineral King development or highway will eliviate ~~this plight of the~~ poverty. The poor of Tulare County do not operat highway ~~crews~~ machinery. They are not employees of construction firms. They are the migrat workers, mexican-americans, the field hands. They live in tarpaper shacks in the San Joaquin Valley, not in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada near Mineral King. Furthermore I do not think their chances for employment at Mineral King are very good considering the employment

2023.009.0033a

qualifications at Disneyland

Therefore I urge you to ~~consider this requested grant~~ subject this grant to the most careful scrutiny and I suggest that there are much less questionable means by which to improve the employment atmosphere for the poor of Tulare County.

I should like very much to hear from you regarding the criterian used when awarding such federal grants as the one for which California has applied. Also I would like to know what action if any you have taken on this requested grant. Thank you.

17

2023.009.0033 b